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**CONVENTION  
NOTES**

**N. W. Wisconsin and E. Minnesota.**

Pursuant to call, the bee-keepers of Northwestern Wisconsin and Eastern Minnesota met in convention at La-Crosse, Wis., on Tuesday, May 10, 1881, with Vice President E. Markle in the chair.

The number of colonies lost last winter was 403, and from the different opinions expressed, it was the general impression that bees will winter best in a cellar.

L. H. Pammel read a paper on the "Progress of Bee-Keeping."

W. Lossing followed with an essay on "Wintering Bees."

Mr. Salzer did not know what was the cause of losing so many bees last winter, but thought it was impossible to lose so many unless they froze.

Mr. Markle said those who had wintered in cellars had lost but few compared with the loss on summer stands. Most of those lost on the summer stands were smothered.

Mr. L. S. Soules said that as bees dwindled so much in winter, bee-keepers would have to sell their bees by the pound.

The following is the address of M. A. Gill, Viola, Richland Co., Wis.:

In giving my ideas on the many vital questions you have so wisely chosen for discussion at this convention, I do not expect or claim to offer any rule which is infallible. I do not wish to array myself against the mighty march of progress, that is daily evolving new and valuable lessons in this, our chosen science; all that I can hope for is to be privileged to drop, perchance, some single thought, whereby some member of the fraternity may be benefitted. I will therefore comment briefly upon and review the several questions before this convention.

1. Bees that are each and every one armed sentinels against every discourteous intrusion, that are vigorous in

protecting their hive against the moth, that bear their loads of honey right up to the very entrance instead of gyrating in front of the hive, that have many ragged winged veterans among the working force, which denotes hardiness and longevity (the latter characteristic I regard of paramount importance)—such bees I consider as possessed of superiority as between colonies of the same race and bees of whatever race, possessing the foregoing requisites, I look upon as superior.

2. I claim that in any locality north of parallel 40, cellar wintering is preferable from the fact that if any protection is necessary that method which seems the most perfect and entire protection is the best, and we should endeavor to preserve, as nearly as possible, that temperature which will keep the colony in its normal condition; a condition which in my mind cannot be secured on the summer stand (no matter how thorough and complete in its details is the method of packing adopted) with the mercury ranging as it has for the last 60 days in our State; I would have it understood, in all that the terms imply, that a cellar should be perfectly quiet, pure and dry, and all light excluded.

3. With the above conditions fulfilled, upward ventilation more than a quilt would give, I think needless, but if on the summer stands, direct upward ventilation or plenty of absorbent material I think very necessary.

4. Attendant upon and owing to the foregoing method of winter protection, I consider from 12 to 14 lbs. of good honey sufficient to carry any colony from the 20th of Nov. until the 1st of April, but if on the summer stands, would consider 25 lbs. as no more than an ample store for the same length of time; after that time, each would consume comparatively the same amount.

5. The smallest quantity I ever knew to be consumed was 5 lbs. This was in the winter of 1879-80, from Nov. 20 to March 20. This was by a colony of Italians of my strain of small eaters, which I consider a very desirable trait, and one as distinct as that of beauty, docility, or honey gathering, and which I firmly believe can be induced by selection and breeding as much as any other quality. For who has not noticed in families of bees (as well as of mankind) that some will live and thrive—by their habits of economy and frugality—upon what others would waste by their gormandizing and profligate habits.

6. The great mistake of beginners is getting too many bees before acquiring a thorough knowledge of the business; another mistake is often made by allowing a too rapid increase which will (to the novice) invariably result in disaster.

7. Having some experimental knowledge I would say to the beginner, be cautious; first study well some standard work, and by no means think of doing without a bee-keeper's periodical of recognized merit. Next buy 2 or 3 colonies of bees (not more), and buy none but the best, adopt some good standard hive and get all the honey you can and but little increase until you find out whether or not you are a bee-keeper.

8. In commenting upon this question I have only to say that I never had occasion to winter on any substitute

for pure honey; have ever made it a practice to allow my bees ample stores for even an emergency while I take what remains. I endeavor to place the honey in such shape in the hive (for this the Gallup frame answers the purpose best) that the late honey, such as buckwheat, golden rod, aster, etc., may be consumed first and while the bees are in their most healthy condition, while the basswood and clover will come in toward spring and serve as a change of diet or alternative, which is of considerable importance after their long confinement.

9. On the best method of swarming for Wisconsin there are many different opinions and many phases of the question, and the matter must necessarily be governed by circumstances. For the specialist with but one apiary I would advise well controlled natural swarming, while if he should own an apiary away from home nucleus-swarming might be practiced to great advantage by building up nuclei and interchanging between the locations, thus avoiding the difficulty so often met with of a return to the parent colony. But in the case of many (myself included) who are engaged in a joint business, farming and bee-keeping, it is impossible to give the latter one's whole attention, and for such, well conducted artificial swarming is the most desirable.

10. I would not advise dividing, only in exceptional instances, before the clover season, as it is liable to thwart the best chances for the basswood yield in those sections where it is the chief source of surplus. In many parts of our State white clover is sadly wanting as compared with the older States, but we look forward with hope to the time when our hill-slopes, valleys, pasture lands and waste lands shall bear this beautiful and useful plant in bounteous profusion.

11. In regard to melting up old combs for foundation, I think it should not be practiced with straight worker comb. I have sometimes thought that for the different uses of brood combs those old stiff ones were the best, however their utility is certainly of longer duration than many suppose.

12. The use of division boards as a means of enhancing our surplus is to me of great importance, and not only its early use in the hive proper, but its use in the super in getting the bees started where frames are used that hold 2 tiers of sections or for starting on 2 or 3 combs for the extractor, throwing back the mat or quilt and putting in the follower, and spreading the comb as fast as wanted until the entire super is occupied, when everything around the hive will soon be on a boom.

13. I do not think basswood injured; it being a forest tree and indigenous, why should it kill any more than the bloom of the maple or any of the different varieties of salix.

The following questions were taken from the question box:

What is the origin of the Italian bee? Are bees taxable property; and if so, how much per colony?

In answering the first question, Mr. Soules said that the Rev. Mr. Langstroth, Mr. Jones and others had come to the conclusion that the Italian bee was a hybrid of the Cyprian and black bee.

Mr. Pammel said the Italian bee was an offspring of the Cyprian, since its shape and general structure indicate it.

Mr. Lossing said they were a distinct race, as the saddle found on the Cyprian was not to be found on the Italian.

Mr. Pammel said that as a proof of his statement, every close observer had noticed the great difference in our home-bred Italians and those imported. A few years more and we will have a distinct race, if the rule of selection of the best and "survival of the fittest" be practiced.

Mr. Markle thought Mr. Pammel was laboring under a great mistake. In regard to the second question, he thought it an insult to tax bees, since he could not tell how long he could own them, or whether they would ever give him a profit.

L. S. Soules said he did not know how they could be taxed, since they are not personal property.

Mr. Lossing thought it unjust that some bee-keepers were taxed while others were not; if they are taxable property he would be willing to pay.

Mr. Salzer said they should be taxed, since they are personal property, just as are the horse and cow, and the profits reaped therefrom are just as large.

Mr. Markle. If they are taxable, why not tax the trout in a man's pond; it would be equally absurd.

Mr. Pammel. As bees are in every sense of the word personal property, they should be taxed, one and all.

Mr. Jaques said as his bees had been taxed while others had not, he looked the point up and found that bees, according to a general law, are not taxable property.

R. A. Morgan, Arcadia, Wis., in reply to the question "does it pay to melt up old combs and use foundation," said: I say it does. But what I may say, or what the best of bee-keepers may say, is not now believed unless proved by actual demonstration; hence I will give the following formula, which I think is not overdrawn:

1. I find about 15 per cent. of all old combs moldy and about 5 per cent. cracked or twisted out of shape.

2. We will suppose that the cost of filling a hive with new foundation is 50 cents, and that honey is worth 10 cents a pound, we lose what is equal to one good day's work for the colony or (2½ lbs. of honey) 25 cents to say the least, which is 50 per cent. of the foundation by using old combs instead of foundation; the cleaning of the combs is worth at least 5 per cent. of the foundation.

3. The old combs to melt up are worth 25 per cent. of the cost of foundation, making in all 100 per cent. or the whole cost of foundation. This does not take into account the waste and expense of keeping combs over, the number of bees killed or disgusted by having old combs put into the hive or the increase in wax that the bees make by building out the foundation, nor the time lost by the queen not accepting old as readily as new, and sometimes not at all.

But while we bear this in mind we must not think that there is no profit in using old combs; on the contrary, old combs may be used with great profit, but comb foundation with still greater profit.



But as I cannot explain in detail here how I arrived at these figures suffice it to say that I arrived at them by actual experiments, which experiments are subject to conditions, such as climate, weather, kind of comb used, etc.

I think it but just to say that to my knowledge the Dunham foundation is the best in use.

The Convention adjourned to meet pursuant to the call of the President.

JAMES MANCHESTER, Pres.  
L. H. PAMMEL, Jr., Sec.

#### Eastern New York Convention.

This convention was held at the Schoharie Court House, N. Y., May 10 and 11, 1881.

President A. Snyder being absent, at 2 p. m. the meeting was called to order by the Secretary, W. L. Tennant was elected President *pro tem*. Mr. Tennant then delivered a short address, full of practical interest to bee-keepers.

W. D. Wright, N. D. West, I. Markle, Geo. Van Wie, and M. Snyder were appointed a committee to select questions for discussion.

Question: "Is it necessary to give bees upward ventilation in winter, if in frame hives in cellars with temperature at 45°?" The general opinion was in favor of wintering in cellars with upward ventilation, but not enough to cause a draught through the hive; and that bees should occupy 7 spaces of comb for successful wintering.

The evening session convened at 7 p. m., and had an interesting meeting full of interest to bee-keepers.

#### SECOND DAY.

The meeting was called to order by President Snyder, at 9 a. m. The following were elected officers for the coming year:

President, W. D. Wright; Vice-President, M. Snyder; Secretary, N. D. West; Treasurer, W. L. Tennant.

The next meeting will be held at Knowersville, Sept. 27, 1881.

It was resolved that each bee-keeper present should in the afternoon hand in their reports for the last year, but they failed to do so.

The Secretary read the following from J. H. Nellis, Canajoharie, N. Y.:

The past severe winter has doubtless made sad havoc in many apiaries and, it may be, has well nigh discouraged many. Here the theory of "the survival of the fittest" will be exemplified, and those who possess pluck will, with the plucky bees that "pull through," make a grand success in the future. Study hard to learn the causes of loss, for we all must realize that if the losses of winter can be avoided we can make bee-culture profitable, and we hold that nowhere can more accurate information be obtained than from a careful comparison of facts, circumstances and conditions, especially between the extremes of success and failure, which honest men seeking for truth can elucidate at our Bee-keepers' Conventions.

Compared with the matter of successful wintering, all other points of discussion fall into insignificance, unless perhaps the matter of creating a solid basis for the honey market. This will be done largely in the future in 3 ways, viz.: Create and maintain a home demand, avoiding as much as possible the crowding of your product upon a centralized market where it is handled by commission merchants. True, you will learn of a few getting fancy prices for their crops when so handled, but realize that favorable conditions, as being put on the market very early, or being of gilt edge quality, or there may be a little favoritism shown, or is it not possible that a few lots are accounted for at fancy prices in order to allure consignments? Beware of all these we say.

Secondly. Be sure your packages are of popular size and of fine appearance for box honey.

Thirdly. Extracted honey can and will find large sales at fair prices, put up in cheap tin packages, varying from 2 to 50 lbs. in weight. These can be shipped at cheap rates, are useful to the consumer, are not expensive to the producer, are not subject to breakage in shipping, and finally, are common sense

in themselves, which latter quality will make a success of any article or man when possessed. J. H. NELLIS.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Nellis for his able essay was unanimously carried.

Question: "What are the requisites for successful wintering?" This was answered by all as follows: Plenty of young bees and honey, also a good cellar or frost-proof repository, and the bees should be put in before there is frost in the hives.

Question: "Do bees need water while wintering in the cellar; if so, is the condensed vapor arising from the bees sufficient, or should they be supplied with fresh water?"

Mr. Boomhower said: Bees do not need water in winter, the vapor arising to the top of the hive is sufficient and good for this supply; I have tasted of it many times and found it good and sweet. I winter in a clamp—no ventilation at the bottom of my hives; I put on a piece of factory cloth covering the whole top of the hive, I then put on the honey board, so as not to cover the whole top. I examine them often and if any are uneasy I shake the drops of water on the honey board down upon the factory cloth; I sometimes sprinkle them with fresh water; they will come up and eat like pigs and be quiet. I winter very successfully.

J. G. Quinby winters his bees in box hives inverted, without water.

S. Vroman never tried water but thinks the vapor of the bees gives all the water needed; he does not disturb his bees in winter quarters; he thinks he would prefer water to honey for feeding to stimulate breeding in February.

W. Tennant thinks bees do need water when wintered in the cellar; he has been very successful in wintering when he used it; he said he had some box hives inverted one winter and he sprinkled water on them with his hand; they took the water freely; they kept quiet and bred in the cellar and came out the strongest of any he ever had.

J. G. Quinby keeps his bees dry and gives a large amount of upward ventilation. He winters best in this way and never gives them water.

G. Van Veris: No water is needed. President Wright was not in favor of giving water.

In the afternoon the meeting was called to order at 1 p. m. and the following discussion ensued:

Question: "What is the cause of the so-called dysentery?"

The President indorsed Mr. Heddon's theory and thought it was the most plausible as the cause of dysentery.

W. Tennant thinks G. M. Doolittle is correct; he uses his name frequently when speaking and indorses his writings.

S. Vroman thinks that cold is the cause.

G. Van Veris: cold and dampness.

A. B. Simpkins: I believe nearly all the bees that die have the dysentery.

The following essay was read on

#### Spring Management.

All experienced apiarists well know that this is an all-important subject. All depends upon the bee-keeper after the bees are wintered to bring them through the coming spring, and he must determine whether they will be a success or a failure.

Two practical points must be considered: First, to know the exact condition of the bees; second, after knowing their condition to determine just what they require to bring them through strong and ready for business. In trying to find out their condition, see that they have plenty of sealed honey, and the main point of all, a queen—not a poor, shriveled up object, that might never be capable of doing the duties of her majesty, but one that looks as if she will be capable of doing her duty under all circumstances. If you should find a colony queenless unite it with some other weak colony, if you have any in your yard. By uniting 2 weak colonies you can make quite a good colony of them. Here is where bee-keepers make their mistake: they will try and nurse along a weak colony thinking they will have so many more colonies to gather honey and the result is they will hardly gather honey enough for their

own use the coming winter, where, if they had united 2 of those weak colonies in the spring they would have gathered quite a surplus.

The next necessary step is to keep the bees confined on as few combs as they will cover; the object of this is to keep as much heat as possible confined in the cluster for the benefit of brood-rearing. To do this remove all combs not occupied by the bees, leaving both sealed honey and empty combs necessary for the brood nest; put all combs taken out where it is dry, for future use. After removing all surplus combs, have two division boards manufactured out of some thin boards about 3/4 of an inch thick, and have them so that they will fit closely on all sides; put one on each side of your frames, thus closing up on both sides of the brood nest making it the same as if your hive was made to fit the size of your colony, thus your bees will not have any unoccupied space to consume their much needed warmth, for plenty of warmth is the success of spring management. It is also quite necessary to put some chaff on both sides of the brood nest, and, in fact, in every unoccupied space about your hive, as it will keep out the cold, bleak winds, and help to generate warmth. After you have your colonies all in this condition and there are any that require feeding, I should advise some kind of top feeder, that is a feeder to be placed on top of the frames right over the brood nest, and feed them, as they require it, some good white sugar made in a thin syrup, or honey if you have it, and by all means do not use any glucose or grape sugar, as it is a nuisance and not worthy the attention of any bee-keeper. There is nothing better than good sugar or honey; it may cost you a trifle more, but you will find it the cheapest in the end. My reasons for not using grape sugar are, I have found that it hardened in the cells so that the bees would not remove it, and it hindered the queen in depositing her eggs in them, thus making the combs almost useless. I have known it to cause dysentery.

You will find it necessary to examine your colonies about twice a week and as fast as the queen fills the combs with brood and the bees can cover them, supply them with another frame of empty comb or foundation, putting it in the centre of the brood-nest, thereby increasing the size of the brood-nest and giving the queen more business in rearing. Bees I have often given two frames of empty combs in a week, and had them filled with brood. It is very necessary to use caution in doing this, for if you spread the brood-nest faster than the bees can fill it, you are only hindering instead of advancing them.

I find it pays to stimulate the bees in some manner in the spring, to make them breed fast. The amount of bees are what we are after at this season of the year, and the best way to bring about this result is my aim. I find it is a good plan every time going through your colonies to take a knife and break the cappings just enough to make the honey run, and the bees will gather it up and store it around the brood-nest, and set them to rearing.

A great many bee-keepers are troubled with robbing, but I find it of not much importance if you keep your colonies strong as they should be. If you have weak colonies, I should advise keeping the entrance closed so that but one bee can pass out or in at a time, then there is no danger. Practical apiarists never have much difficulty in this matter; they generally know the condition of their colonies and what to do with them; but sometimes hints that have been tried as experiments and proven successful will help the most enlightened. The bee-keeper works under many disadvantages. What proves and works correct one year will not another, therefore he has to apply his knowledge as well as that of others to the peculiar circumstances that govern the season, and we must govern our work accordingly. How are we to do this? We must understand just what our bees require under all conditions of the weather, and apply our knowledge to their requirements. If there is too little heed given to our bees in the spring how can we

expect to receive a bountiful harvest? But if we give all our energies and mind to the best mode to make our pets comfortable, we will obtain the best results as a recompense.

As I have not the space or time that I wish to give to this theme, I hope all will bear in mind the secret of bee-keeping is in keeping your colonies warm and populous, and breeding as fast as possible, then you will have attained the best mode of spring management.

THEO. HAUCK.

A vote of thanks for this essay was passed unanimously.

Question: "What style of hives and section boxes are best for securing surplus honey?"

S. Vroman uses the new Quinby hive; he likes the broad frame for side sections and top-boxes used at the same time. He controls swarming so as to have little or no increase; formerly he was satisfied when using the old box hive with about 25 lbs. of surplus honey, but is now hardly satisfied with 100 lbs. per colony.

W. Tennant favors side and top boxing combined; says the Italians work in side boxes best; they are more reluctant about going up; the side boxes must be used to secure the best results. For the native bees he thinks side-boxing less practicable; he favors the 2 lb. prize box, says the 1 lb. is too small.

A. Stanton used top boxes only.

A. B. Simpkins uses top and side boxes combined, and thinks that the best way.

F. Boomhower has had no experience with side boxing and wants none.

Geo. Van Wie favors and practices top and side boxing combined.

W. Tennant objects to the Langstroth frame, says it is not deep enough for successful wintering; would not use it under any circumstances; there is not depth enough for the bees to breed up naturally; he thinks the queen should have room to form a solid ball of brood, at least 10 inches in diameter.

It was resolved that the President appoint a Vice-President for each county not represented.

A resolution of thanks was passed to the County Sheriff and Jailor for courtesies, and a bill of \$2 for use of Court room was ordered paid. Adjourned.

N. D. WEST, Sec.



For the American Bee Journal.

#### The Straw Hive of the Future.

WM. F. CLARKE.

Those who are familiar with the old edition of Quinby's "Mysteries of Bee-Keeping" (I have not the new one edited by Mr. Root), will remember a prediction of his that the straw hive would yet, in time, regain its former position in the public favor. Not the conical hive, but a straw hive of convenient shape for using movable frames. I was reminded of this prediction last fall, on being shown, at one of our fairs, a straw hive coated within and without with plaster of Paris. The walls, including both straw and plaster, were about 3 inches in thickness, 2 of them being of straw, and each coat of plaster about half an inch. I was greatly interested in the hive, especially when the exhibitor told me that he was going to winter several colonies on this principle. He promised, at my request, to report the result. I have now his letter before me, in which he says:

"I used 8 of the plastered hives and wintered that number of colonies in them and 33 in wooden hives. The plastered hives had 10 frames in them, the others (Jones' hives) had all removed but 8 (12 is the full complement of frames to the Jones hives). All the 41 colonies had 30 lbs. of honey by weight, not guess. I put them all in the bee house on the 22d of October, and took them out on the 14th of April. Well, all the 8 in the plastered hives came out alive. One that had no queen was alive but very



weak in bees. The other 7 were as strong as when put in, last fall; 3 had 5 frames of brood sealed over, and all had some brood in them. All these had old queens, the young ones were all in the wood hives; 21 out of 33 in the wood hives were dead; all the live ones were very weak, and in a bad, dirty condition. Some had used all the honey, while the plastered hives had lots to carry them to the present. The whole 7 are now, May 5, strong enough to swarm, while those in the wood hives are still quite weak."

The calamitous experience of the season just past shows that we have not yet fully mastered the problem of wintering. Various methods have proved successful under certain circumstances, while all have failed in many cases. Cellar wintering seems to have come out somewhat ahead, yet even that has not been uniformly a success. Chaff packing has disappointed not a few of its enthusiastic advocates. Possibly one reason of its failure may be its being encased in boards, one great objection to which is their liability to retain moisture. Mr. Quinby refers to this in his discussion of the straw hive of the future. He says: "Boards do not dispose of the moisture with sufficient rapidity." Again he says: "The moisture must be got rid of, and in no way can it be done so well as by straining it through straw." My correspondent does not say what top covering he had on his plastered hives, but the plaster would be impervious to moisture both outside and inside. With a thick straw mattress on top, the moisture would "strain through the straw," and leave the inside of the hive perfectly dry.

I shall investigate the straw-plaster hive more thoroughly, and report on it further hereafter. Meantime, now that the subject of wintering is invested with such a melancholy and general interest, I give the information which has reached me in regard to this novel mode of constructing hives. I use the term "novel" in regard to myself. It is that, both as to observation and experience, so far as I am concerned, but it may not be so to others, for there are those who consider that, so far as hives go, there is no longer anything new under the sun. Even these, however, may yet find it possible for them to get hold of a new wrinkle.

Listowel, Ont., May 12, 1881.

From the Western Stock Journal.

### The Mortality Among Bees.

O. CLUTE.

In all bee-keeping records there is no parallel to the losses of bees during the past winter. North, east and west all report that a very large part of the bees are dead. In some cases old beekeepers, who had scores or hundreds of colonies, have lost all. Nearly every bee-keeper has suffered, but some escape with a loss of 25 or 30 per cent. The losses are due to several causes:

1. The season last year was a very poor one for honey. During fruit-bloom there was much wind and rain, hence honey was washed out of the flowers, and bees were also prevented from flying to get it. As but little honey was secured during fruit-bloom bees reared but little brood, and so were weak when the white clover season began.

2. Last year the white clover was a very short crop. The previous winter was quite open, and the white clover was largely killed. Probably there was not 1-10 of the usual amount; some say not 1-20. Even if the colonies had been strong they would have secured but a short crop of honey. Weak as they were the crop was doubly short.

3. Linden-bloom last year seemed to yield but little honey, and this little was largely washed away by rains during the opening of the flowers.

4. The severe drouth in July and August cut off a large part of the plants that yield honey in the fall. Spanish needle, golden rod, asters, heartsease and buckwheat were much less abundant than usual. As a result the fall crop of honey was very light.

5. From these causes the hives were but partially stored with food for winter. If the winter had been a warm one the losses would have been heavy.

But winter began the first of November and there was no let up until nearly the middle of April; more than 5 months of cold weather, during which bees must consume much honey to keep up the heat of the hive, soon exhausted the small supply, and very large numbers of bees soon had every particle of honey eaten.

6. Some report their bees dead with plenty of honey in the hives. This may happen in 2 ways: 1. In cold weather bees collect in a dense cluster just beneath the honey in the combs. They eat the honey above them, gradually going up the combs until they reach the top. Now, if the weather is very cold they cannot go around the edges of the combs to get at combs containing honey, and may starve with honey within 3 inches of them. 2. Bees do not usually void their feces in the hive; this is done outside on the wing. In very cold weather they had to eat so much to keep up the heat that they soon became gorged and diseased. They are compelled to void in the hives, the hives become damp and filthy, the bees get what is called "bee-dysentery" or "bee-cholera," and perish miserably, in spite of plenty of honey.

Probably all these 6 causes have been operative in bringing to bee-keepers the disastrous results of the winter just passed. It is quite probable, too, that there are other causes which have thus far escaped the notice of the acutest observers. Whatever the cause, beekeepers are painfully aware of the sad fact that most, or all, of their bees have perished. They have, it may be, a few weak colonies left; they have a discouraging array of hives with no bees, from which the soiled combs send forth a sickening odor. The winter has put a check upon the bee-keeping industry from which it will take years to recover.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Introducing Queens.

ROBERT DOWNS.

There are many methods for introducing queens, some of which require too much unnecessary labor to suit me, and I will give my method. I do not say that my way is best, but it has proved good enough for me thus far. I have, during the past 2 years, introduced a hundred queens or more, for my neighbors and myself, without the loss of a single queen, by this method:

I put the queen to be introduced into the introducing cage, which is an Oatman cage or one similar, with a stopper in one end, and a small, clean sponge, soaked with honey and water, in the other end, in such a way that the bees from outside cannot get to it. I then find and remove the old queen; if robbers are likely to cause trouble, I move the hive into some building, and I find by so doing that it makes the bees more docile and less apt to sting.

In the middle of the day is the best time, as then a good many of the bees are in the field and out of the way. If the weather is a little cool I examine the center combs first, and very often pick the queen off from the first comb that I take out; but if it is very warm, I find that she is as likely to be on the outside comb as anywhere. When the old queen is found I put her where I know she will not get back to the hive again. If the weather is cool I spread the combs apart in the center and hang the cage in between, run a small wire through the stopper and let it rest on the frames which holds the cage in place. I formerly held the cage in place by pressing the combs against the cage, but I often found the cage on the bottom board when I opened the hive to liberate the queen, which, though it may be harmless, is not so handy to get out when ready to liberate the queen; if the weather is warm, which is generally the case, I lay the cage on the frames and, as in the first place, close up the hive and let it remain from 18 to 21 hours (not over 24 hours); then open the hive very gently, using a little smoke to drive away the bees from the cage, remove it as carefully as possible, take out the stopper and replace it with one of comb honey, cut to fit. I uncap a little honey near the cage, after it is replaced on the frames, close up the

hive as before, and the operation is performed.

The bees will liberate the queen in a very short time and when the hive is closed and everything is quiet she has the scent of the hive and very soon begins business, like all good queens. By this method but very little time is lost in the increase of the colony. After removing the old queen I aim to get another one in her place as soon as possible. To let a colony remain queenless for 6 or 8 days is needless, and then to go through a hive and cut out the queen-cells I find is no boy's play. I have put in queens in this way when the bees were made so cross by robbers that I could not go near the hive without veil and gloves, and the queens were received all right, every time.

Naugatuck, Conn., May 2, 1881.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Shall we have a General Report?

G. L. TINKER, M. D.

There will probably never be a more auspicious time to make a general report on the various causes of the great mortality of bees during the past winter. If bee-keepers are to profit in the future by our late disasters, a classified and summarized report should be made. No names of bee-keepers need be published, but the losses of colonies and those left alive can be classified and utilized to great advantage in promoting the science of apiculture in this country. A percentage of all losses in the different kinds of hives by the various methods of wintering can be made so that it is possible to ascertain the most successful winter hive and the best method of preparing for winter.

The many published reports are indefinite in very important particulars, and if anyone will take them alone and endeavor to make out a general report, it will soon be found to be impracticable. I have therefore undertaken to make out a general report by addressing a large number of bee-keepers for more definite particulars, and if all I have addressed will answer as fully as those I have already heard from, a report of value and general interest can be made. I hope to receive reports from all whom I addressed, and from many others.

A full report can be readily made out on a postal card, if the following form be taken as a guide, and may include the living and dead colonies of other bee-keepers in the neighborhood:

What hives were used.....  
Number wintered on summer stands unprotected.....  
Number alive.....  
Number protected.....  
Number alive.....  
Number wintered in cellar, winter repository or bee house.....  
Number alive.....

It is important that the kind of hive used in wintering be given, and following it the method of preparation for winter, then the number of colonies lost and the number left alive.

New Philadelphia, Ohio.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Disturbing Bees in Winter.

C. A. HATCH.

Most writers on the subject of the present loss and bad condition of bees are inclined to lay the blame to long confinement. I have an interest in 23 colonies 10 miles from home, now in a cellar, where they have been since about Nov. 5, with no flight, making over 5 months' confinement, and yet I never had bees in a better condition. Fifty colonies at my home cellar have all had one good flight and part of them two, and they are not in as good condition as the others; have lost 9. If bees cannot be put out for good in 2 weeks after a flight no good is done, but rather the reverse; it makes them uneasy; they come out of the hive and die on the cellar bottom.

The idea suggested by Mr. Langstroth, i. e., that disturbing bees causes them to breed, is true, and in this case (of winter flights) the cause of the

trouble. Confining longer than 2 weeks causes excessive consumption of honey, and hence dysentery and all its ills. If the foregoing "lesson of the hour" is true, and facts seem to sustain it, we should regard winter flights as a remedy for trouble already begun, rather than a preventive of trouble to come. The cellars in both the above cases are dry, warm and well ventilated; both lots of bees being in Langstroth hives, of the same stock, and apparently in the same condition in the fall; why one should need the flight and the other not, I do not know, but it was not the confinement that did it.

The following table of losses and manner of wintering may be of interest. It covers an area of 10 miles, except such as have already reported:

A-4 colonies, loss 4	C	F
B-10 " " " 3	C	F
C-25 " " " 21	C	F
D-10 " " " 10	S	F
E-6 " " " 6	S	F
F-9 " " " 8	SS	B&F
G-10 " " " 10	S	B&F
H-4 " " " 4	H	B
I-6 " " " 6	H	B&F
Mine, 50 " " " 9	C	F
" 50 " " " 8	C	F 5 b
" 23 " " " 0	C	F
" 4 " " " 4	S	B
" 8 " " " 4	B	F

228 96

The letters indicate different owners; in the column for manner of wintering, C stands for cellar, S for summer stand with straw packing, H for house, SS for summer stand without protection, B for buried. In last column F stands for frame hive, B for box hive.

Ithaca, Wis., April 15, 1881.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Success in Wintering Bees.

A. D. STOCKING.

As the past winter has been a severe one on bees, and as there has been great losses by both old and experienced and inexperienced beekeepers, the question arises, what is the cause and what the remedy?

We have passed through 2 severe winters on bees, and one the opposite of the other; the first open, wet and changeable, the last long, and severely cold; the loss of bees both winters being heavy. We need not discuss the method of wintering, for those who read the JOURNAL can see that whether wintered in the house, the cellar, or on the summer stands, in chaff or packed, there is not much difference in the results; there has been success and loss in all these modes of wintering, therefore we must look somewhere else for the cause.

One year ago I wintered 18 colonies without any loss; this last fall I had 34 colonies and have lost but 3; the balance came through all right and are now getting a good deal of honey and are building up finely. I wintered mine on their summer stands, protected only by about 5 inches of fine cut buckwheat and wheat straw over the frames, and the weakest chaff cushions at the sides, and the entrances closed to about 2 inches; they had no flight for nearly 4 months.

I have no extractor, therefore took no honey from the body of the hives and they were full of clover and basswood honey, and the hives full of bees, with the exception of 3 or 4 that were quite light. I got but very little surplus honey. I have come to this conclusion: That the cause of the great loss of bees was lack of young bees, poor stores and long confinement. It is generally considered that the fall honey is usually of poor quality; if we extract the early honey and leave the bees to winter on the fall honey we must expect heavy losses if the winter proves severe; of course many were short of stores and starved. I attribute my success wholly to my hives being full of bees and having good honey to winter on. I think many pay more attention to the mode of wintering than to the interior of the hives. If I was using the extractor and my bees had to winter on fall honey and I was not satisfied the honey was of first quality, I would extract it and feed the best sugar, if I had not clover honey to give them.

Ligonier, Ind., May 16, 1881.





THOMAS C. NEWMAN.  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHICAGO, ILL., MAY 25, 1881.

### Did Starvation Cause Dysentery?

Dr. Southwick contributes the following, as corroborative of the position he assumed in the Weekly BEE JOURNAL of April 20, that the prevalence of dysentery was owing to starvation:

I have found another case of dysentery, which I think will puzzle your long-confinement, bacteria and pollen men. As I understood the man, he said he took off the top boxes in the fall and put in their place a cushion; the bees, nearly a quart of them, got above the cushion, could not get back, and died there. He said they had the dysentery bad, daubing the hive, and upper side of the cushion very much. Now, where did they get their honey with or without the bacteria to produce this dysentery and death? Is not this a pretty sure case of dysentery and death produced by starvation, or is it a first-class case of dysentery caused by gorging themselves with an imaginary honey and no chance for flight? E. B. SOUTHWICK.  
Mendon, May 13, 1881.

It was undoubtedly a first-class case of dysentery caused by gorging on *real* honey. It is more than probable that the disturbance necessarily created in taking off the top sections caused the bees to gorge themselves before getting above the cushion, and certainly the close confinement is clearly established, inasmuch as they could not get out for a flight. If, on the other hand, the supposition be assumed that they were workers returning from the field, the probability is equally as strong that they were filled with honey when imprisoned. To our mind, Dr. Southwick has cited strong presumptive evidence to disprove the theory he attempts to establish.

Last fall we had occasion to visit an apiary of two hundred colonies, in Kane county, Ill., in which several colonies had died from sheer starvation. In many of the combs were cells filled with dead bees, but so far as our observation went, not a comb was soiled. We since learn every one of the 200 colonies died from starvation in the early days of winter. Our informant (an old bee-keeper) said the hives were filled with as bright and clean combs as he ever saw. Another case: A gentleman from St. Clair county, Mich., remarked in the BEE JOURNAL office, a fortnight since, that he had lost about all his bees (some 200 colonies) by starvation, and had purchased another 100 colonies with which to build up again, and it would be an easy task, as his bees that starved had left a nice lot of clean combs.

We have examined many hives this spring in which the bees perished, and, as a rule—in fact almost universally—where the excrement-covered combs showed that dysentery had prevailed, we observed more or less honey; sometimes the honey was in close proximity to the bees, in others further removed; but it was almost always to be found in the hive.

To what extent the presence of bacteria in the honey may be a factor of disease we cannot say, but we do not see any reason for believing that starvation

is the cause of dysentery. Observation has led us to think that excitement and confinement would produce it, as also would unusual cold and unremitting confinement; and it may be these factors are more or less each dependent on the others.

### Best Package for Extracted Honey.

Mr. J. H. Shimer, of Hillsboro, Ill., asks the following question:

"What is the best style of packages for putting extracted honey on the market? I want to begin right, for a good start is half the battle. I have 118 colonies, all booming, and a good prospect for 10,000 lbs. of white clover honey."

The above question is one of the greatest importance in connection with bee-keeping. If the product is for a home market, then, of course, the producer must study the local preference regarding the size and style of package, as well as the grade of honey most easily disposed of. As far as practicable, keep each grade of honey separate; it is a mistake to suppose a few pounds of inferior or different shade honey will make no difference in a large bulk of white clover honey, or that thereby a better rate will be obtained for the second grade article. Instead, the result will most likely be to class it all as second grade, and the price of all will be depreciated. Again, if possible, keep the white clover and basswood honey separate. In order to do this, keep a vigilant watch of the basswood bloom, and extract the white clover quite close before the bees commence gathering from the former. A little clover in the basswood honey, however, will not do the harm that would result if the proportions were reversed. After the basswood harvest is all gathered by the bees, extract it closely, as it will not do to taint any other honey, even though it be from fall flowers and somewhat darker, with its peculiar pungent flavor.

For small retail packages, tin pails with close-fitting covers are the best. Purchased by the gross or in lots of one thousand or more, the price is so inconsiderable that no consumer will object to paying what they cost in addition to the price of the honey, for they are so "handy to have in the house" that not one housewife in a hundred would wish to return the pail. Persons will often persuade themselves to purchase a pail of honey after lifting off the cover and tasting the contents, who would not be tempted were it in a tight-stoppered jar or a close-topped can, so they could only "feast the imagination" by reading the label. A neatly printed label should be gummed or pasted on each pail, stating the amount and kind of honey, name of apiarist by whom put up, and giving in a foot-note directions for liquifying the honey in case it shall become granulated. These pails might be of three sizes—1-quart, 2-quart and 1-gallon—holding, respectively, 2½ lbs., 5 lbs., and 10 lbs. We would not advise the use of screw-top cans; they are a nuisance in more ways than one. It is equally difficult to get an exact weight into and out of them; if the honey be granulated, it is difficult to liquify it without besmearing the can; and they are not convenient for general use in a family after the honey is consumed, so the purchaser feels that what is paid for the can is money thrown away.

If smaller packages are wanted, then use glass jars and tumblers. These are

always worth their cost in the family—the former for pickles, catsups, and a thousand other uses, while the latter are equally appreciated for their convenience in putting up jellies, etc. Jars and tumblers, like the tin pails, should be tastefully put up and labeled. For a retail market, excellence of goods should be the prime consideration, but the attractiveness of the package should never be lost sight of. Manufacturers of adulterated goods, of nearly every description, depend more upon effecting sales by the employment of attractive packages and tasteful, pretentious labels than upon the excellence of the pretended article sold. In this respect, bee-keepers have been woefully negligent, and many have appeared wholly indifferent as to the appearance of their honey, seeming to imagine that their personal assurance to the grocer of the purity of the article, was sufficient to convince the public of its desirableness. Nine times out of ten, New York or Chicago glucosed honey, in attractive packages, will find a sale at exorbitant figures, while unattractive pure honey goes begging the market at unremunerative prices.

If the honey be destined for a metropolitan or foreign market, an entirely different method of putting it up should be employed. No more convenient, attractive or economical package can be used than ten or fifteen gallon kegs. These should be spruce, pine or cypress, and never of hard-wood. Barrels are too heavy and cumbersome for convenient handling, too large and irregular in size for rapid sales, and too wasteful in leakage for profitable use. No hard-wood barrel is safe to put honey in till after it has been thoroughly waxed, and even this will not prevent leakage where the honey has granulated, because it will be necessary to take the head out of the barrel to get at the honey, and in order to do this, the hoops must be started and the staves sprung out, which breaks the wax at every joint where the staves come together, and they cannot be closed tightly again; therefore, if the honey be not all taken out at once, leakage is certain to follow. The wax also comes off the staves in scales and mixes with the honey, which is often very annoying. Soft-wood kegs need no waxing. If thoroughly drenched with water a few hours before using, no leakage will take place. Taking into account the value of the wax and time consumed in applying it, together with the price of the barrel, and the kegs will be the cheapest, without reckoning in their favor the less liability of leakage and greater convenience. As the jobber never pays for the barrel, the shipper should use the cheapest—if the best.

The preference of jobbers will always be found to favor the kegs holding 10 and 15 gallons. With a shipment of 10,000 lbs. of honey, we are confident 9,000 lbs., if in kegs holding 10 and 15 gallons—110 and 165 lbs.—will all be sold before the remaining 1,000 lbs., if in two ordinary oak barrels of 500 lbs. each, provided the quality is the same. Many times jobbers and commission dealers decline small sales, rather than furnish smaller packages and give the time requisite for dividing up a large barrel of honey. We think we are safe in predicting that the time is rapidly approaching when there will be a discrimination of at least one cent per pound in favor of the small casks, for the finer

grades of extracted honey, whether for retailing or manufacturing purposes.

We cannot see anything about the large tin cans (5 and 10 gallons), whether round or square, to recommend them to public favor. They are very expensive, and require an outer wooden case to protect the can in transportation. This extra expense is a total loss to the apiarist, as no can is worth returning after a grocer has retailed its contents. We very much doubt, also, if any grocer could be found willing to buy a second 10-gallon can of honey at any price, after having had the contents of a first one granulate a few times.

**Statistical Report.**—The call is quite general for a statistical table of the results of the winter on the bees of America. In order to have it of any value it should be general and full. We will give it in the JOURNAL if we can have a general response, but a partial one will be annoying, and will not repay us for the labor and expense of getting it up. We invite attention to Dr. Tinker's remarks on this subject, on page 163. Be careful to follow the table there given, and let the reports be sent in at once. Dr. Tinker has promised to send us his statistical table next week, therefore all reports should now be sent to the BEE JOURNAL directly, that they may be included in the general statistical table.



### BRITISH BEE JOURNAL.

The British Bee Journal commences a new volume with the May number. Mr. C. N. Abbott, its able editor, with whom we spent several very pleasant hours while in London, two years ago, is a thoroughly practical apiarist, and keeps up with the times in all progressive and scientific attainments. He commences the ninth year of the existence of the *British Bee Journal* with these characteristic words: "For ourselves, we promise to do our best to deserve what it is not in mortal to command, success." The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL extends its congratulations, and wishes its contemporary an unbounded success.

The Rev. Herbert R. Peel, the very efficient Secretary of the British Bee-Keepers' Association, we are exceedingly sorry to learn, is seriously ill. Mr. Peel is an enthusiastic apiarist, and one of the most progressive in England. We hope he will soon recover his wonted health.

**The Weather in England.**—The prolonged coldness of the weather, consequent on the prevalence of easterly winds during the past month, has sadly retarded the progress of favorites, for, excepting occasionally, they have scarcely visited the fruit-blossoms with which Nature has so bountifully and beautifully embellished the earth, and many of the fruits which she has so lavishly "brought to the birth" will not be "brought forth" through the impossibility of apistical influence, a great argument in favor of bee-keeping.



**Bees and Honey Producing Bloom.**—At a recent meeting of the Torrey Botanical Club Mr. Thomas Mehan, in a note in the *Bulletin*, of the Torrey Botanical Club, says:

I find that the behavior of bees is governed by circumstances. When flowers are abundant they visit those only which they prefer; at other times they examine anything that comes in their way. At the time I am writing, (May 18) there is a dearth of garden flowers. Those of early spring are gone, and the later ones are not well formed. But columbines in many species are in bloom. The humble bee bores the end of the nectaries and sucks the honey stored there, and the honey bee follows and sucks from the same hole what may be left, or what may be afterwards generated from the honey gland. I have often watched closely to learn whether the honey bee bored for honey. Its quick motions are unfavorable to correct observation. I thought I once caught it boring lilac flowers, but I afterwards counted all the flowers that had been bored by the humble bee, and then watched the work of the honey bee on the cluster, and there were no more bored afterwards than before. The columbines (*aquilegia*), with curved nectaries, such as *A. vulgaris* and *A. olímpica*, are very favorable for observation, as the slit is made on the upper side of the curve and the honey bee can easily be seen following after the crumbs that may have been left on the strong one's table. I have no doubt, however, that it would bore for itself if it had the power, and perhaps it sometimes does. The humble bee and the honey bee are evidently not the insects for which the columbine had this beautifully contrived nectar cup provided, to induce cross fertilization; and what particular insect was designed to be the favored one, so that it, and no other, could turn its tongue around those twisted spurs to get at the honey in the end, I think no student has yet discovered.

**Empty Combs and Moth Worms.**—In the *Prairie Farmer*, Mrs. L. Harrison says:

The warm weather of this month is promoting the hatching of moth larvae (*Galleria Cereana*) in unoccupied comb. The eggs of the bee moth are very small and white. As soon as they hatch, to protect themselves from the bees they wrap themselves in a silken tube, which they have power to spin. They remain in this tunnel of silk during all their growth, enlarging it as they eat. By looking closely the presence of these larvae may be known by this robe of glittering silk along the surface of comb.

In 3 or 4 weeks the larvae are full grown, when it spins its cocoon, and issues from it in 2 weeks in a moth of the color of old boards. In an astonishing short time these worms will destroy the comb in a hive. Their anatomy is very different from ours, for they can digest comb and it makes them plump and fat. These worms breed in weak colonies, and those that are queenless, but we know from experience that a teacupful of Italians will protect all the combs in a hive from their inroads. We have inserted a comb, badly infested with worms, into a strong colony of Italians, and in an incredibly short time they carried out the worms.

Some apiarists claim that freezing will destroy these insects in all stages. It was certainly cold enough the past winter in the open air for the experiment, and we find plenty hatching in unoccupied comb thus wintered, at the present writing—May 11. These insects are great cowards, and love warmth and darkness, and we have observed that when combs touch they are more likely to be infested than when hung separately. If unoccupied frames of comb are hung up in a light, airy room, 2 inches apart, they will keep free from worms until needed. All combs in hives without bees, should be fumigated. We do this by lighting our smoker, and when it is burning sprinkle on sulphur and set it in a hive.

## SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

**Pollen in the Combs.**—My report for this year is, 1 lost in wintering 33 colonies; 6 are rather light. I usually have success in wintering my bees. Mr. H. L. Jeffrey, on pages 146-7 of the *BEE JOURNAL*, has hit the nail on the head about pollen in the combs for wintering; but I would put it in, in April. I have experimented in feeding in winter largely, and I like it; it may be the way out of our difficulties in these hard winters. J. L. DAVIS.  
Holt, Mich., May 14, 1881.

**The Frame for Winter.**—Bee-keeping is dreadfully set back here; box alder is in bloom, but not one bud where thousands might have been seen last year. My bees are all nice and busy. One colony shut up out-of-doors from Nov. 1, to April 15, came out to-day, healthy and in a normal condition. I see no reason for changing my method of wintering, except that I would recommend 30 lbs. of honey instead of 25. One point will eventually come out fully and that is that bees must have a frame long enough and deep enough for the cluster to travel on all winter, without changing from side to side. Breaking cluster in winter, especially if pollen is plenty in the combs, always produces excitement, followed by dysentery, unless the cluster is broken by a cleansing flight. I have repeatedly seen the bees, after having exhausted the stores in a few frames, prepare to break and change, and I have noted the results. A frame for wintering that is shorter than the Langstroth is a mistake; I prefer them a little longer and nearly 3 inches deeper. Consumption of honey with me was light in 1873 (commencement of my experiments in wintering) till the winter just ended, which has simply been enormous. I have to feed. I am not discomfited by Prof. Cook's report; there will be an outcome to that yet. One point I have fully proven, at least to my satisfaction, that is, that bees may remain shut up on pure honey, free from pollen, from Nov. 1 to April 15 without dysentery, and with trifling loss of bees from the colony. I have tested this the last 6 winters by trial of one colony each winter. J. M. SHUCK.  
Des Moines, Iowa, April 29, 1881.

**The Opinion Prevailed.**—In the *Journal* of May 18, in the report of the Eastern Michigan Convention this sentence occurs: "All agreed that further importation was undesirable." It should be: "the opinion prevailed that further importation was undesirable." The opinion was not unanimous, but seemed to be held by a majority of those present, as now published the minority are misrepresented. A. B. WEED, Sec.  
Detroit, Mich., May 20, 1881.

**Those Three-Peck Swarms.**—In the *Weekly BEE JOURNAL* of April 20, Mr. C. A. Hatch remarks that he fears some novice may be ruined in trying to obtain such results as I reported. His remarks about basswood are all lost to me; I never wrote a word about basswood, neither do I claim any knowledge of it. That article was written by R. A. Morgan, who lives in the next county and makes a specialty of rearing basswood trees for sale from the seed, and ought to know whereof he writes. Those 3-peck swarms trouble him; and he gives figures to show how they could not get in the hive. Did he ever see one of his peck swarms contract at the approach of winter into a ball no larger than a child's head? That enormous yield of honey—245 lbs from the swarm and 185 lbs. from the parent colony—is 438 lbs. he says; reader, figure it. I stated that I took 430 lbs., which sold at 20 cents, and it netted me \$86. The fact that I live in a fertile valley, bordered by streams abounding in basswood, maples, alder, willows, etc., bounded by high bluffs affording fall flowers late, and have at least 8,000 acres of clover range, makes the statement no less true of my yield, even if our

friend living 100 miles away has a small one. I gave my plan of taking comb honey last season. I send you a sample by mail of red clover honey, of which I took a very large surplus in June, before basswood, last year. My bees are in excellent condition; they began carrying in pollen April 15, and to-day they just roll in with the little yellow balls. I never saw so much brood at this season of the year, and considerable new honey is coming in. I think from maple or willow, both being very plenty at short range.

E. A. MORGAN.  
Arcadia, Wis., April 20, 1881.

**The Results of the Winter.**—I started into winter with 165 colonies; they were strong, and had plenty of sealed honey. After 5½ months of steady cold weather, I had but 3 very weak colonies. My bees left 3,000 lbs. of sealed honey of the best quality. A few showed signs of dysentery in the hives, on top of the frames, and many more died before they reached that point. My bees died from extreme cold weather, long-continued. They were not sufficiently well packed on their summer stands. I live on the highest ground in Peru, and there was not one day from Nov. 10 until April 15, that was warm enough to open a hive with safety. One of our best bee men, at Granville, wintered his bees in the cellar, and lost 25 colonies. Another, at Henry, put into winter quarters 200 colonies, and saved only 40. One in this city had 40 colonies, but now has none left. Our lady bee-keeper on the prairie had 60 colonies, but now has only 2. The less we know about bee-keeping, the more we think we know; the same is true, however, in all other pursuits in life. Box-hive men fared the best this season. One man saved 2 out of 10 colonies; another, 2 out of 18; another, 6 out of 20, with no protection whatever. One man had 3 box hives; he removed the honey boxes from the top, left the holes open, set an empty hive on each one and saved all. I append a statement of my 4 years' work. I had but 1 colony in 1876. Commenced in 1877:

Bought during 4 years, 64 colonies.....	\$218 00
Material for hives, fixtures, etc.....	222 40
	\$440 40
Sold honey, hives and bees.....	\$306 00
Pleasure with my bees.....	134 40
	\$440 40
On hand 3,000 lbs. honey at 10c.....	\$300 00
" 300 hives at \$1.50 each.....	450 00
" extractor, buzz saw, etc.....	50 00
	\$800 00

Also, 1,400 straight combs.

I admit being somewhat at a loss to know what to do to be saved, but have concluded to go on, if I have to commence with one colony. We are about as badly off as the people in Kansas after they were hopped.

H. S. HACKMAN.  
Peru, Ill., May 1, 1881.

**Winter Losses.**—My loss is fully 50 per cent., and the remainder are very weak. Most of them were packed on the summer stands. I placed potatoes on the honey board of 2 or 3 and found sprouts from 3 to 9 inches in length. Those in cellars lost less bees, but the combs were moldy and mice destroyed 3 or 4. A near neighbor had 11 and lost all but 2; another had but 3 left out of 13; another had 16 and lost 8; another 9 and lost 5, another 8 and lost 4. One man claims to have wintered 13 in his chamber without loss; another put 13 in a dry cellar and lost 4; another had 9 and lost all. Others lost heavily but I have not learned to what extent.

H. B. ROLF.  
Westfield, N. Y., May 16, 1881.

**A Boy's Experience.**—We have 3 colonies of bees, 2 blacks and 1 Italian, in good condition; they have commenced storing honey in the boxes very rapidly from the poplar and black gum. The poplar bloom is very rich, there being now more bloom and honey than bees. I believe the blacks will beat the Italians, at any rate, they are working better in the boxes. My father says he expects 100 lbs. from each colony; he says I have the "A B C" book but need the *JOURNAL* also. I am 13 years old and don't know much about bees only what I learned from the "A B C" and by watching the bees. A. DEATON.  
Carthage, N. C., May 11, 1881.

**Bees in Canada.**—By an observant perusal of a letter in the *BEE JOURNAL* May 4, page 142, one would suppose that Ontario is devastated of its bees; this is not the case; those put in good cellars, or houses built for storing bees, did not have heavy losses. Mr. M. Emigh, living 6 miles from this town, put into a cellar under a dwelling house, last November, 85 colonies, and took them out April 21; 5 colonies starved; temperature in cellar 40° to 50°; and to-day some of them have 8 frames of brood. R. Martin, of this town, put away last fall 8 colonies; now he has 7. I put into a bee-house 100 colonies on Nov. 4, and into a cellar under a dwelling house I put 45 colonies on Nov. 10. I did not remove the summer quilts and opened the entrances to the full extent. I put them out April 15 in splendid condition. Losses to May 1, when I take stock for the year, 13 colonies—3 died with plenty of stores, 2 were robbed after being put on the summer stands, leaving 127 colonies; 4 of them are weak. My bees were never in a better condition at this season of the year than at present. The temperature in the house was 38° to 52°; in cellar, 40° to 50°, well ventilated. At noon to-day, at time of young bees playing, I saw drones flying. J. B. HALL.  
Woodstock, Ont., May 11, 1881.

**No more Black Bees.**—I have already reported going into winter quarters with 27 colonies (all black but 5), and coming out March 1, with 26, one black colony in an odd sized hive not being supplied with honey from the Italians, lived till the last of February and then died. Moving in March, the condition of the roads forced me to leave my bees seven miles away, till April 26, when I moved them up and found that 2 had deserted for want of honey, and 2 had starved. Two others were so weak that they were united, 1 being queenless. Five in all were queenless, but that was a slight loss, as all my Italians were full of bees and brood, and drones were hatching. I took stores from them last fall to keep my blacks alive, and now I have taken brood for my blacks to rear queens and to build them up with. I have been an advocate of black bees, or at least slow and cautious to change, but after this I shall doubt the judgement of any bee-keeper who will have them, if he can get Italians at any price. If I have any on the place hereafter, I shall feel obliged to make some excuse or apology for there being here. Indications with me are for early and profuse swarming, and I would advise all beekeepers who desire honey, rather than increase, to be on their guard. Mr. Shepherd, some miles northeast, has, I hear, lost 50 out of 100 colonies. Dr. Foreman, of Milton, reports a loss of one out of 33, but gave no details. The Dr. has the brightest bees and the tidest apiary I ever visited. I enclose a little plant, or floweret, that I wish you to give the name of, though I am ashamed to ask any one to name a plant so common; yet the bees seem so busy on it that it would be interesting to know what to call it. White clover is very abundant, and the promise is for an abundant honey crop. I have lately seen a new honey rack, invented by E. Armstrong, in which both ends of the rack act as wedge, while 5¼ x 6¼ and 4¼ x 5¼ boxes were so arranged that both or either could be put in the rack; the same separators answer for both sizes of boxes, and the glass was cut in strips as long as the box was wide, and no glassing of sections was required, as the wedges held all very tightly together. I do not know whether it is patented or not, but it is a very superior honey rack, and the inventor deserves credit for it, as it can be made to fit any hive. One of your correspondents says that a dead-air space between double walls will prevent the formation of ice in the hive. Most of my hives are well and carefully made with two ¾ walls, and from ½ to ¾ of an inch between them, yet ice forms in them before the thermometer marks zero, though they are tightly fitted on good stands, and no ventilation, except ¾x2 at the entrance. WM. CAMM.  
Murrayville, Ill., May 1, 1881.

[It belongs to the aster family.—Ed.]



**Wintered Well.**—After 5 long weary months of close confinement in the cellar, my bees are again upon their summer stands. My bees have come through the ordeal well; I lost a few colonies by starvation. Not having a flight, I had no knowledge of their needs until too late. I put my bees on their summer stands April 25; next day they were carrying in pollen rapidly; the third day I looked through the hives and found new honey from swamp poplar, I suppose, as the willows had not then blossomed. I read in the BEE JOURNAL of terrible losses, and know personally many that have lost all, who have not reported. What few bees are left should be well cared for; I think there is a good prospect; white clover is plenty where there was none last year.

E. J. GOULD.

Dundee, Ill., May 3, 1881.

**Saved 60 per cent. of Bees.**—Not less than 95 per cent. of the bees in Delaware Co., N. Y., are dead, but I have done better than that; I have saved 60 per cent. of mine.

N. H. OWEN.

North Kortright, N. Y., May 11, 1881.

**Success.**—Bees have not wintered very well here. Those on summer stands without protection are all dead. Some have wintered well in cellars and some have lost all. I wintered 130 colonies without loss up to April 15, since then I have lost some and have united weak colonies and am now a dozen short, but none are as strong as they were one year ago. Success to the BEE JOURNAL.

N. D. WEST.

Middleburgh, N. Y.

**Early Swarms.**—I had 2 large swarms out to-day, and have several more about ready to swarm.

B. WALKER.

Capac, Mich., May 10, 1881.

**No Loss in Winter.**—My bees are Italians, and have wintered without loss, on the summer stands, with protection. They are strong and breeding nicely.

AMANDA PARSONS.

East Gloucester, Mass., May 18, 1881.

**Statistics.**—Now that winter is fairly over, and we begin to recover and count up the dead and living colonies, we would like very much to have a statistical table, much like the one in your excellent JOURNAL of October, 1878. I think it could be obtained by giving notice through the BEE JOURNAL. I will do what I can to help its completion. Success to the BEE JOURNAL.

NEWELL E. FRANCE.

Platteville, Wis., April 25, 1881.

**Pleasant Visit to Texas.**—On May 11, I arrived at McKinney, Texas, to attend the State Bee-Keepers' Association. There was a good attendance and we had a very interesting meeting, at the apiary of President Andrews, whose hospitality I enjoyed. Many zealous bee-keepers were in attendance, among whom were: Mr. F. F. Collins, and Dr. Howard, Dr. Graham and others. They gave me an enthusiastic welcome as President of the National Society, and I shall long remember this meeting with pleasure.

N. P. ALLEN.

**The Condition of the Bees.**—I will let you know how the bees are coming on about here. One man put 40 colonies in a cellar and took out 33 with bees in the hives April 9; another man put 5 colonies in the cellar and they were all right; another having 35 or 36 in a bee house last fall had lost all by the first of March—the bee house had 2 thicknesses of boarding and 2 thicknesses of paper all around; another that wintered in a bee house, double-walled and packed, lost about 20 out of about 40 colonies, but perhaps a cider mill was to blame for that; another that wintered in a bee house lost nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and nearly all that were left out-of-doors without protection are dead. I had 22 colonies and 4 nuclei; the nuclei and 2 colonies starved, and one was queenless. All but 3 are in good condition. They were put in the cellar about Nov. 17, and took out April 9; one colony had the dysentery. The thermometer stood about 34° above zero; I think it would

be better, from past experience, if I had kept it about 40° to 45°; they used more honey than ever before. As to the cause of dysentery, I think G. M. Doolittle is right about the matter; this one of mine, last fall, was a strong colony and they have eaten more honey than any one in the lot. I don't know just why they get uneasy and do so, but I think that is all the trouble. Another colony was very heavy last fall, and seemed about as heavy when I took it out, and they have lots of honey and bees and are dry and nice. So, in proportion as they eat and keep quiet, are they in good condition. Such I could get out-of-doors, perhaps, before they appeared to know they were being moved, but the others would boil out in the cellar, making an uproar because there was a disturbance around them. I believe that a good cellar, rightly arranged, is best. Mine is 19 feet by 25 feet, divided through the middle by a lathed and plastered division and in the south end has a stove. When it gets too cold I build a fire and open the door between, and when I want to ventilate I do the same.

V. W. KEENEY.

Shirland, Ill., April 19, 1881.

**The N. E. Convention.**—We all enjoy a good joke, and those personally acquainted with the parties mentioned below will, I think, appreciate it:

Our friends, Messrs. Doolittle & Co.,  
Have had their storm and calm,  
Are now consoled, like bees subdued  
By smoke, or sweet, or balm.  
President Root did well preside;  
But now his term has past;  
We still desire to hear of him,  
If only by "cold blast."  
Dr. Marks, who took his place—  
Our choice—we all like well;  
The hearty vote that he received  
Is the rule by which to tell.  
When Vice Doolittle took the chair  
He filled it to the edge;  
The discussions still continued,  
From the hive down to the cage.  
A clown could never, never give,  
By either smile or grace,  
The dollars Bacon did receive  
As shown by smiling face.  
Our Secretary gave us information,  
Not in money or in stocks;  
But that a 5c. or 10c. cigar  
Both came from the same box.  
Our fare was all that could be wished,  
Our beds were low and wide;  
But, cornerwise, to stretch our length,  
We lay there side by side.  
Next year when we shall meet again,  
If the mercury is not much higher,  
We had better go, packed in chaff,  
Or have a better fire.

Scriba, N. Y. F. H. CYRENIUS.

[This was sent immediately after the Convention was held, but a press of important matter has prevented its publication till now.—Ed.]

**After the Battle.**—One-half the bees wintered in repositories, in this locality, are dead, as well as 9-10 of those wintered on summer stands. I reported, on March 16, that my bees were in good condition, with the loss of 1 out of 68; they were returned to the cellar, and another warm day did not occur until April 16, when they were placed on the summer stands, with a loss of 2 more. Spring dwindling, since, has caused a loss of 20 colonies; but if I had lost all, I should try again, with as much enthusiasm as ever. I have been much interested in the reports on wintering. I think that apiarian science consists in successfully getting the bees through from November until May. In regard to the Weekly BEE JOURNAL I would say: For the man that is interested in bee-keeping, from one month to another is too long to wait. I have been out to-day watching the blessed bees: the woods are full of flowers and the apiary is booming.

C. H. FRANCE.

Erie, Pa., May 1, 1881.

**Cellar Wintering.**—About March 1, 1880, I took 4 colonies of bees out of the cellar, after 4 months' confinement; 3 were in good condition, but the other had to be fed. They were in good condition for honey gathering, but white clover and other honey-producers failed, and in the fall I had to feed them. I increased by natural swarming to 7, and bought 3; one of the latter left one day in my absence, leaving 9 which I had to feed. One colony, by some oversight, did not get enough, and starved. I took them from the cellar last week, and 3 were weak (1 being queenless), 2 of

which I united and may have to give them the third. The remaining 5 colonies are in good condition. Early last summer I took \$12. worth of comb honey from them, but should not have done so if I had any idea that the season would be so poor. My bees were in the cellar last winter 160 days; they were dry and free from mildew; I did not disturb them till spring. I prefer to winter in the cellar, and shall practice it till I find something better. All who keep bees should subscribe for the BEE JOURNAL; it is worth many times its price. I am of the opinion that it is not advisable to clip the queens' wings to prevent swarming. I think the mutilation robs her of prestige and power.

WM. L. BACKENITO.

Iowa City, Iowa, April 18, 1881.

**"Dollar" and "Tested" Queens.**—The article on page 91, on "The Supply and Queen Trade" seems to infer that if we wish to improve our bees, we have only to get some high-priced queens, and it is accomplished. I do not believe the theory: we have to depend upon the honesty of the breeder, for we cannot examine the goods and select the best. I notice in one circular sent me, the breeder says that he rears dollar queens just the same as tested ones, but can better afford to sell them as soon as they begin to lay, for a dollar, than to test them at the higher price. That being the case, would it not be better to test them ourselves and save the higher price? Would not some breeders having large orders for tested queens, fill the orders, even if they were not very prolific, if purely mated, etc? Success to the Weekly.

Lyn, Ont.

C. J. ASSELTINE.

**Swarming Out.**—I placed my bees on the summer stands April 8 in good order. After being in the open air for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours one of the colonies left the hive, and, after a flight, they joined another colony, where they were accepted without strife. This colony had plenty of honey and a good queen; the hive was clean and all the combs bright. Why did it leave the hive? The bees of this same colony left the hive again on May 8, leaving brood in all stages, and joined another. Here they were only accepted after a severe fight, in which several hundreds were killed. Why did they do it? What does it mean when bees come home loaded with pollen and stop at the entrance of the hive and buzz for some time before entering?

OTTO ROHLAND.

Narrowsburgh, N. Y., May 14, 1881.

[It is not a settled point, what causes abnormal swarming. We have known a colony to desert 3 or 4 hives before settling down to business permanently; then, again, we have known as many as 3 abnormal swarms to go in the same hive. Bees in gathering pollen sometimes come in contact with obnoxious plants, and it is generally supposed the fanning is done to purify themselves before entering the hive.—Ed.]

**Wintering Bees.**—Any facts on this subject are interesting to those desirous of obtaining information. Meeting a man who keeps bees, some distance from my home, I asked how they wintered. He replied in a "matter of course" manner: "First rate, sir." "How many had you in the fall?" said I. "Eight." "How many now?" I inquired; "Eight, doing finely," pointing to 8 weather-beaten pine boxes on a bench on the south side of a fence, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the ground, unprotected, except some rough boards nailed against the fence. There they stood in January, just as they did in August—no cellar, no chaff, no dead-air spaces, and no dead bees. I do not give this instance to attack any theory or practice, though I see that the great apostle of chaff hives has been no more successful than others. I will now give my own experience of 3 years with wintering on the summer stands. I use Simplicity hives, with frames the short way of it, instead of the regular Langstroth frame; by this, I am able to snugly tuck in a three frame nucleus, or a 15

frame colony by drawing forward or pushing back the division board. My chaff hive (if such it may be called), is a simple tight box with single pitch loose roof, taken off when we are handling the bees. This box is 4 inches larger than the hive all round, 23 inches high at the back, so there is no trouble in stooping over it. The four-inch space I fill with a chaff cushion, cut straw, or cut corn stalks does as well as either. I remove the cap, leave the duck quilt on, put on a thick chaff cushion lapping well over on the packing and they are safe in winter quarters. Last winter I put 24 up in this way, and as in the past, they all came out sound. I remove all packing and leave a dead-air space in summer, which is cooler and facilitates working. My bees are leather-colored Italians; the progeny of which I mean to cross this summer with Cyprian drones.

Stelton, N. J. G. W. THOMPSON.

**Bees cared for, Doing Well.**—Fifty per cent. of all the bees that were left on summer stands in this locality are dead, while about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of those that were cared for are dead; besides the uncared for are very weak and build up slowly, while those cared for are full and running over. I had 8 swarms by the 16th inst., from 16 colonies that I had cared for; I don't know of another swarm yet in all this locality. Bees are doing well; nectar is plenty; bloom is flourishing and filling the air with perfume.

ROBERT CORBETT.

Manhattan, Kas., May 19, 1881.

**Bee-Keeping in Missouri.**—Nearly all the bees are dead in this locality. I put in winter quarters last fall 165 colonies, and only have 50 left, and those very weak. A neighbor had 100 colonies and lost all; another had 45, only 10 left; another had 43, only 10 left, and so on; but few are left. All winter on the summer stands without protection, this being a mild climate. Some winter we have no snow, but the past winter has been the most severe one ever known. This is in general a splendid locality for bees. We have usually very mild winters and a vast amount of wild flowers, which commence blooming about March 15 and last until frost; among which are maple, hazel, gum, basswood, poplar, grapevine, wild locust, foxtail, boneset, sumac, blackberry, golden rod, ditsney, Spanish needle, tar blanket, horsemint, white clover, etc. I am well pleased with the Weekly BEE JOURNAL.

W. N. CRAVEN.

Poplar Bluff, Mo.

**Separating Swarms.**—If Messrs. Bray & Seacord's manner of separating swarms is really effective, I hope that they will give a more thorough explanation of the operation than was given in their article on that subject in the BEE JOURNAL of April 6, which is not considered satisfactory by bee-keepers. With your permission, Mr. Editor, I will call their attention to the matter.

J. O. P.

Winnetka, Ill., May 19, 1881.

**Very Thin Foundation.**—I mail you to-day, Mr. Editor, samples of comb foundation made on the Dunham machine, the lightest of which will measure fully 11 feet to the pound. I do not send it for the purpose of advertising, for I do not care to make it for any one, but to show that the Dunham comb foundation can be made equal to any, for surplus.

J. G. WHITTEN.

[These samples are as near perfection as we can wish, and shows what can be accomplished by the persistent efforts of the skillful manufacturer.—Ed.]

**Out of the Woods.**—I increased my bees to 40 colonies in 1880. I have never lost a colony in wintering. My method is on summer stands, in simplicity hives, with 5 inches of chaff and 1-inch lime cushion. I am the originator of this lime idea, and wrote the first letter on it, which was published in *Gleanings* for Dec., 1880, pages 579-80.

C. LOVER.

Reisterstown, Md., May 10, 1881.



## SPECIAL NOTICES.

Single copies of the JOURNAL are sent postage paid for 5 cents each.

Those who may wish to change from other editions to the Weekly, can do so by paying the difference.

The Volume of the BEE JOURNAL for 1880, bound in stiff paper covers, will be sent by mail, for \$1.50.

When changing a postoffice address, mention the old address as well as the new one.

We have prepared Ribbon Badges for bee-keepers, on which are printed a large bee in gold. Price 10 cents each, or \$8.00 per hundred.

Notices and advertisements intended for the Weekly BEE JOURNAL must reach this office by Friday of the week previous.

We can supply but a few more of the back numbers to new subscribers. If any want them, they must be sent for soon.

A Safe and Sure Means of restoring the youthful color of the hair is furnished by Parker's Hair Balsam, which is deservedly popular from its superior cleanliness. 18w4t

Constitutions and By-Laws for local Associations \$2 per 100. The name of the Association printed in the blanks for 50 cents extra.

Sample copies of the Weekly BEE JOURNAL will be sent free to any names that may be sent in. Any one intending to get up a club can have sample copies sent to the persons they desire to interview, by sending the names to this office.

The date following the name on the wrapper label of this paper indicates the time to which you have paid. In making remittances, always send by postal order, registered letter, or by draft on Chicago or New York. Drafts on other cities, and local checks, are not taken by the banks in this city except at a discount of 25c., to pay expense of collecting them.

PREMIUMS.—For a club of 2, weekly we will give a copy of "Bee-Culture;" for a club of 5, weekly, we will give a copy of "Cook's Manual," bound in cloth; for a club of 6, we give a copy of the JOURNAL for a year free. Do not forget that it will pay to devote a few hours to the BEE JOURNAL.

At the Chicago meeting of the National Society we were requested to get photographs of the leading apiarists, to sell to those who wanted them. We can now supply the following at 25 cents each: Dzierzon, the Baron of Berlepsch, and Langstroth. The likeness of Mr. Langstroth we have copied, is one furnished by his daughter, who says, "it is the only one ever taken when he was in good health and spirits." We are glad to be able to secure one of such a satisfactory nature.

It would save us much trouble, if all would be particular to give their P.O. address and name, when writing to this office. We have several letters (some inclosing money) that have no name. Many others having no Post-office, County or State. Also, if you live near one postoffice and get your mail at another, be sure to give the address we have on our list.

Food for the Brain and Nerves that will invigorate the body without intoxicating, is what we need in these days of rush and worry. Parker's Ginger Tonic restores the vital energies, soothes the nerves and brings good health quicker than anything you can use.—Tribune. 18w4t

## Honey and Beeswax Market.

## BUYERS' QUOTATIONS.

## CHICAGO.

HONEY.—The market is plentifully supplied with honey, and sales are slow at weak, easy prices. Quotable at 15¢@18c. for strictly choice white comb in 1 and 2 lb. boxes; at 10¢@12c. for common dark-colored and broken lots. Extracted, 7¢@8c. BEESWAX.—Choice yellow, 24¢@25c; dark, 15¢@17.

## NEW YORK.

HONEY.—Best white comb honey, small neat packages, 14¢@17c; dark 11¢@12; large boxes 2c. less.—White extracted, 9¢@10c; dark, 7¢@8c. BEESWAX.—Prime quality, 24¢@25c.

## CINCINNATI.

HONEY.—The market for extracted clover honey is good, at 8¢@10c. Comb honey is of slow sale at 16c. for the best. BEESWAX.—18¢@22c. C. F. MUTH.

## SAN FRANCISCO.

HONEY.—Being now between seasons, there is not much changing hands in honey. Stocks are small, and in many cases held at a limit above buyers' prices, in anticipation of improved prices later on. The first consignments of new will probably not arrive before the middle of June. A shipment of 556 cases and 174 bbls, representing previous purchases, went forward to Liverpool this week. We quote white comb, 12¢@14c; dark to go, 9¢@11c. Extracted, choice to extra white, 5¢@6c; dark and candied, 4¢@5c. BEESWAX.—21¢@22c, as to color. STARNES & SMITH, 423 Front Street, San Francisco, Cal., May 14, 1881.

## CLUBBING LIST.

We supply the Weekly American Bee Journal and any of the following periodicals, for 1881, at the prices quoted in the last column of figures. The first column gives the regular price of both:

The Weekly Bee Journal (T. G. Newman)	3 00	2 75
and Gleanings in Bee-Culture (A. J. Root)	3 00	2 75
Bee-Keepers' Magazine (A. J. King)	3 00	2 60
Bee-Keepers' Exchange (J. H. Nellis)	2 75	2 50
The 4 above-named papers	4 75	3 75
Bee-Keepers' Instructor (W. T. Thomas)	2 50	2 35
Bee-Keepers' Guide (A. G. Hill)	2 50	2 35
The 6 above-named papers	5 75	5 00
Prof. Cook's Manual (bound in cloth)	2 25	3 00
Bee-Culture (T. G. Newman)	2 40	2 30
For Semi-monthly Bee Journal, \$1.00 less.		
For Monthly Bee Journal, \$1.50 less.		

## Local Convention Directory.

1881. Time and Place of Meeting.  
Sept.—National, at Lexington, Ky.  
Oct.—Kentucky State, at Louisville, Ky.  
Oct. 11, 12—Northern Michigan, at Maple Rapids.  
12—Ky. State, in Exposition B'dg., Louisville, Ky.  
W. Williamson, Sec., Lexington, Ky.  
In order to have this Table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—Ed.

Quite often we receive a rather uncourteous letter because the BEE JOURNAL is discontinued when the time is out that has been paid for. We try to please all our subscribers, but it is not an easy task for us to determine who does and who does not want it so continued. So we must ask to be informed on the subject. The following letter is just received and is just the kind of a notice we wish all would send who desire to have it sent without intermission. We then put this mark, || after the name on the wrapper label, and when so marked do not stop sending the JOURNAL until we receive an order from the subscriber to do so.

"Please continue my JOURNAL right along; if I do not send the money on the day it runs out I do not want you to stop it, for I want every number as soon as it is published. I will send you the money just as soon as I can make it convenient to go to the post office to get a money order. W. C."

Now, if all who desire it so continued would drop us a postal card, or mention it when they are sending a remittance, it would save us much trouble and themselves the annoyance of having the JOURNAL stopped.

With this number several hundreds of subscriptions expire, and we hope all will renew at once or else send us notice by return mail if they desire its continued visits.

HUNDREDS OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN rescued from beds of pain, sickness and almost death and made strong and hearty by Parker's Ginger Tonic are the best evidences in the world of its sterling worth. You can find these in every community.—Post. See advertisement. 9w4t

## Wire Nails.

There being considerable demand for wire nails, I have concluded to carry a stock of them, and can fill orders for any quantity promptly. For nailing Sections, Cases, Frames, Racks, Crates, &c., they have become quite popular.

The entire length of the nail being the same thickness, they never loosen as ordinary iron nails will, and are not as liable to bend or break.

From the assortment of lengths given in the table below, any kind of nailing may be done with these nails, even to making large boxes.

1/4 inch long, wire No. 20, per lb.	34c.
1/2 " " " " " "	25c.
3/4 " " " " " "	22c.
1 " " " " " "	20c.
1 1/4 " " " " " "	18c.
1 1/2 " " " " " "	18c.
1 3/4 " " " " " "	16c.
2 " " " " " "	16c.
2 1/4 " " " " " "	16c.
2 1/2 " " " " " "	14c.

If wanted by mail add 18 cents per lb. for postage.

ALFRED H. NEWMAN,

974 West Madison St., CHICAGO, ILL.

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Is a 32-page, beautifully illustrated Monthly Magazine devoted to POULTRY, PIGEONS and PET STOCK. It has the largest corps of practical breeders as editors of any journal of its class in America, and is THE FINEST POULTRY JOURNAL IN THE WORLD. Volume 12 begins January 1881. SUBSCRIPTION:—\$1.00 per year. Specimen Copy, 10 cents. C. J. WARD, Editor and Proprietor, 182 CLARK ST., CHICAGO.

## Florida Land--640 Acres.

## CHEAP FOR CASH.

DESCRIPTION.—Sec. 4, township 7, south range 7 west, Franklin county, Florida, situated about 50 miles south of the Georgia line, 25 miles west of the city of Tallahassee, the capital of the State, and about 25 miles northeast of the city of Apalachicola, a seaport on the Gulf of Mexico, and within 2 sections (5 and 6) of the Apalachicola river; the soil is a rich, sandy loam, covered with timber. It was conveyed on Dec. 31st, 1875, by Col. Alexander McDonald, who owned 6 sections, including the above, to J. M. Murphy, for \$3,000, and on Sept. 5th, 1877, by him conveyed to the undersigned for \$3,000. The title is perfect, and it is unincumbered, as shown by an abstract from the records of the county, duly attested by the County Clerk; the taxes are all paid and the receipts are in my possession. I will sell the above at a bargain for cash, or trade for a small farm, or other desirable property. An offer for it is respectfully solicited. Address: THOMAS G. NEWMAN, 974 West Madison Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

FREE TO ALL. OUR new illustrated Plant and Seed Catalogue of 80 pages, containing descriptions and prices of best varieties of Plants, Roses, Seeds, Bulbs, etc. in cultivation, and a Colored Plate of our BEAUTIFUL WHITE ROSEYARDIA will be mailed upon receipt of a three-cent stamp for postage. Special Prior-list of Rose Plants. Goods guaranteed first quality. Liberal offers to getters up of clubs. Wholesale & Retail. N. A. Z. & NEUMER, Louisville, Ky.

## EMERSON BINDERS.



15 Binders for the Weekly Bee Journal, of 1881, cloth and paper, postpaid, 85 cents.

We can furnish Emerson's Binders, gilt lettered on the back, for AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1880 at the following prices, postage paid: Cloth and paper, each.....50c. Leather and cloth.....75c.

We can also furnish the Binder for any Paper or Magazine desired.

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